



ANNUNCIATION CATHEDRAL HERALD



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FEBRUARY 2007

CATHEDRAL TO BE REPRESENTED BY TWO GROUPS AT FDF

Two of the Annunciation Cathedral's three dance groups, **Ta Angelakia** and **Filadelfakia**, will be attending this year's FDF (Folk Dance Festival), which will take place in Ontario, CA February 15 through February 18. The Festival, the largest of its kind in the United States, attracts over one hundred groups, some 3,000 dancers, directors and family members, in all.

Ta Angelakia, which consists of the following dancers: **Anthony Obester**, **Dimitri Kontonis**, **Oresti Hernandez**, **Eleni Verros**, **Christina Stratakis** and **Sophia Vitkoff**, ages 10 to 12, will be performing two rounds of dances from the Macedonian region. **Filadelfakia**, which consists of the following

dancers: **Harry Misthos**, **Erini Misthos**, **Arianna Stratakis**, **Michael Stratakis**, **Alyssa Obester**, **Manoli Nuris**, **Jimmie Stavrakaras** and **Angela Hernandez**, ages 13 to 16, will also be performing two rounds. The semi-final round will be from the Macedonian region. Their final round will be from the region of Thrace. **Michael Garibaldi** and **Leah Stavrakaras** are the directors of **Ta Angelakia** and **Elpida** and **Leah Stavrakaras** and **Michael Garibaldi** are the directors of **Filadelfakia**. Parents of the children will be accompanying them to Ontario, as will the directors and **Athena Stavrakaras**, General Director of the Dance Program. We wish our groups well as they participate in this event.

ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR, A PONTIC GLENDI

The dance groups are also pleased to announce that they will be hosting their 2nd Annual Pontic Glendi, which will take place **Saturday, February 10** at the Cathedral's Korinthias Hall, with cocktails at 6:30 p.m. and dinner at 7:30 pm. Once again, we will have Pontian musicians from Greece! The donation is \$40 for adults and \$25 for children 12 years of age and under. For reservations, please call **Irene Kyriacou** at 650-591-0690 or **Lea Lyberopoulos** at 650-619-0504.



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL

This year's St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival will take place, at the parish level, on **Sunday, April 22**. It will take place in the Cathedral's chapel, at 11:30 a.m., following the Divine Liturgy. On the Bay Area District level, it will take place at the Church of the Resurrection, in Castro Valley, on **Sunday, April 29**. At the Metropolis level, it will take place at the St. George Greek Orthodox Church, in Fresno, CA, on **Saturday, May 19**.

This year's Oratorical Festival is devoted to the numerous immovable feasts that are found in the *Menaia*

(the books that commemorate the saints, according to the fixed feasts, such as St. Demetrios (October 26), or St. Barbara (December 4). The word *Menaia* is plural for *Menaion*, a Greek word meaning "month." Thus, the *Menaia* are monthly liturgical books divided, as one might expect, into twelve separate books or volumes, one for each month of the year. Since the liturgical calendar of the Orthodox Church begins on September 1, the first book of the *Menaia* is September. Each of the twelve books of the *Menaia* is organized according to the days of the month. For each day of the month, the *Menaion* con-

tains the names of the saints whom the Church commemorates on that particular day, as well as special hymns for the services of Vespers, Orthros and Liturgy that extol the virtues, deeds, and faith of the saints commemorated. Finally, each day includes a brief biography of the saints. The web site of the Archdiocese contains an interactive calendar of the saints where the basic hymns associated with the saints and a short biography are available: www.goarch.org/en/chapel/calendar.asp Hymns for the Vespers services for many of the saints referenced in the topics for both the junior and senior divisions

can be found in *The Holy Office of Vespers for Feast Days*, Northridge, CA, Narthex Press, 1998.

The topics for the Junior Division include: the Archangels, St. Anthony, Sts. Constantine and Helen, St. Katherine, Sts. Cosmas and Damian, and St. Andrew. For the Senior Division, they include: St. Athanasios, the Prophet Elijah, St. Romanos the Melodist, Sts. Cyril and Methodios, the Three Hierarchs (Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom), and the Holy Prophet, St. John the Forerunner and the Baptist.

IONIAN VILLAGE ACCEPTING STAFF APPLICATIONS

Ionian Village, the travel abroad camping program of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, is now accepting volunteer staff applications for the summer of 2007. Ionian Village staff members have a unique opportunity to play an important role in the spiritual, cultural and social development of Greek Orthodox teens from all over the United States of America as they travel the most significant religious and cultural sites in Greece. Destinations include the Islands of Zakynthos and Kefalonia, Meteora, Ancient Olympia, and the Acropolis. Applicants can download and print a staff application form from our website at <http://www.ionianvillage.org/staff.html#apply>

**Most Holy Theotokos, save us.
I entreat you, O Virgin, disperse the
storm of my grief, and the soul's
most inward confusion, scatter it far
from me. You are the bride of God,
for you have brought forth the
Christ, the Prince of Peace,
O all-blameless one.**

The service of the Small Parak-

ONE OF OUR YOUNGEST PARISHIONERS STRICKEN WITH MORQUIO

Tula Kallas, the Cathedral's Events Coordinator, writes: "A couple of weeks before Christmas, our family received some devastating news about one of our youngest family member, my niece **Ariana Kallas**. She is 17 months old and is the daughter of my brother and his wife, **George and Bertha Kallas**. Ariana was diagnosed with Morquio Type A syndrome. I am writing this because I would like help in raising money for a cure. Specifically, I am working on a fundraiser, to be held at the Annunciation Cathedral. Once everything is finalized, we will inform everyone, in an effort to seek your support. Below is an E-mail Bertha and George have been sending to friends and family members to help everyone understand what Morquio is."

"Hello everyone,

As most of you know, our worst nightmare came true recently when our little Ariana was diagnosed w/ Morquio Type A syndrome. I am writing this in hope this gives you a better understanding of what our baby has.

Morquio is a progressive disorder stunting growth and causing severe skeletal disease in young children. It is a very rare, genetic disease. Because of the many symptomatic bone deformities, these children end up having frequent surgical operations, usually before the age of five. The progressiveness of this disease leads to a shortened life span and typically places the child in a wheelchair by the age of ten.

With hope, a wonderful miracle is just around the corner. A primary researcher, Dr. Shunji Tomatsu, who has been working on Morquio Type A related research for over 17 years, has isolated and created the enzyme that will completely stop the progression of this terrible disease in young children. In fact, Dr. Tomatsu believes he is close to providing the necessary treatment that would completely eliminate the symptoms of this disease. However, he has reached a funding crunch that could prevent him from going into clinical trials with his enzyme replacement therapy. This is why we are asking for your help. I do know that treatment may be right around the corner and words can't explain the hope and excitement I feel.

I love you guys and appreciate all of the support and kind words. It really means so much to us! I know that we'll get through this difficult time and come out much stronger, especially our little "peanut," Ariana. She definitely has a long road ahead of her, but she has the love and faith of the Lord, her family and friends to help guide her through all the bumps and roadblocks along the way!

Love,
Bertha and George"



COMMUNITY LINK

We have begun our 3rd year of Community Link and are grateful to all the volunteers who have given a sense of belonging to the seniors, shut-ins and folks in distress, whom we visit each month.

If you haven't volunteered for Community Link yet, please join our team! We meet the third Saturday of each month at 9:00am at the Annunciation for prayer and visit assignments, we begin our visits by 10:00am, and we conclude by Noon.

Every month we hear about folks who are sick, alone, in the hospital or otherwise in need and we are not able to visit them because we don't have enough volunteers. Please spread the word, bring a friend, and help us strengthen this ministry. And if you know someone who would like a visit, please contact **Caroline Pappajohn** at cpappajohn@yahoo.com or 415-699-563. We will meet next at the Cathedral on **Saturday, February 17, 9 a.m. to noon**. For your convenience, we are listing our meeting schedule for the entire year. Please mark your calendars. The dates are: February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, and December 15.

THOMAS KARIS LEAVES BEQUEST; RELIEF/FOOD BANK FUND ESTABLISHED

The Cathedral was recently informed of a bequest "to Annunciation Cathedral, for the use of their Greek Relief/Food Bank, 2.5% of the residue of decedent's [Thomas Karis'] estate consisting of cash in the amount of \$19,506.90." At its January 24th meeting the Parish Council accepted the bequest, on behalf of the Cathedral, and authorized the opening of such a fund. The fund will support the work being done by Community Link, although support of the food bank has been a specific project of our Sunday School and, the primary philanthropic work in the parish has, since its inception, been the concern of the Philoptochos. We are grateful to the co-executors of the estate of Mr. Karis for enabling this bequest, and pray for the repose of Mr. Karis, who fell asleep in the Lord one year ago.

A DVD COVERING OUR 85TH ANNIVERSARY

We are pleased to inform our parishioners that we are working on producing a DVD showing highlights of that most memorable of events, our 85th anniversary gala held in the Rotunda of San Francisco's City Hall November 12, 2006. A "night of magic, a night of dreams," as His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios called it, the DVD will attempt to capture the essence of the celebration, in pictures and music. When it is done, you will be able to preview it by going to www.petrakosfilms.com. Meanwhile, you may view photos of the event taken by Kostas Petrakos by going to his web site, www.kostasphotography.com. In order to view the photographs, which are available for purchase, you will need to sign in. The username is 1112, and the password is 2006.

ICONS FROM SINAI: A TRIP TO THE GETTY

For the first time ever, icons from the St. Catherine Monastery in Sinai have left their home and are on exhibit in the West, at the Getty Museum. Among them are three of the five oldest icons known to exist in the world. We would like to organize an overnight trip to view the icons, prior to March 4, when the exhibit ends. We will fly to Los Angeles in the morning, spend the afternoon at the Getty, where we will be given a tour, and spend the night nearby. (We are considering staying at the Luxe, a very nicely appointed hotel adjacent the Getty.) The next morning, we will be taken by motor-coach to visit St. Sophia Cathedral and to LAX for our afternoon flight home. We estimate that the cost will be \$250 a person. This would include air fare, ground transportation, and the hotel (two persons to a room). In order to plan, we would like to know how many people are interested in going. If you would like to go, please call **Father Stephen** at the Cathedral, at 415 864-8000, no later than Saturday, February 10.

FREE ON-LINE EDUCATION CLASSES AVAILABLE

Since the fall of 1998, the Archdiocese Department of Religious Education has been offering religious education classes for adults, families and parish educators through a live internet broadcast. An archive of each of these 60 to 90 minute lecture series is available by accessing www.isos.goarch.org. Individuals may access over 80 hours of archived classes, as their schedules permit. The first three lecture series are available in streaming video as well as audio. We invite you to log on.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN OUR METROPOLIS

Eve Tibbs, coordinator of the religious education ministry of our Metropolis, has highlighted areas of emphasis for religious education in 2007. "There are two primary areas of emphasis," she states, "that should continually be given priority in any discussion about Religious Education in our current age and situation.

1. Children must be fully included in the Eucharistic action of the community. Everything that takes place in the classroom, no matter how beautiful and beneficial (even discussion about worship) is nonetheless secondary to the actual praxis of our Faith in the sacramental action of the entire worshipping community. Nurturing our children in love, to attain personal faith in Jesus Christ, with full participation in the liturgical life of our Faith is the true Orthodox way.

2. Religious Education is a continual process, and is necessary for everyone in the community. The training of adults in the Orthodox Christian Faith cannot be neglected...All Christian learning, regardless of age, is a process of interaction and growth in understanding from one spiritual level of development to another, and although childhood is a foundational period in life, children are not the only proper objects of religious education. Our challenge is to continue to grow and improve youth religious education programs, while increasing the emphasis on adult education programs.

The Growing Challenges of our world:

Not surprisingly, we have seen a drop-off in the attendance at our annual seminars for very understandable reasons: time, money, family commitments and the increasingly-daunting challenges of air and highway travel. To this end, I am exploring new ways to connect us. Internet and E mail have certainly been helpful, but I believe it's time to consider bolder ways to provide both information and inter-connection between those who are called to the ministry of Christian Education in their parishes. This year, I would like to explore the possibility of offering a remote Seminar (called a "Webinar") where the Topic, Day, and Time are advertised in advance (just like a regular seminar) but the location will be any computer with a fast internet connection. This could be a Church hall, with a big-screen setup, or one's own home or office computer. The Webinar attendees log on, and are visible by name and location at the Webinar. During the scheduled time, the speaker/presenter can be heard by everyone, and the presentation graphics will be visible onscreen to everyone. Each attendee can enter questions for the speaker at any time, and during the chat session following the presentation, the attendees can ask questions of one another, or exchange contact information for future discussions...This year we will again prepare a Metropolis-wide newsletter, but will primarily use electronic means to distribute the majority of copies, therefore substantially reducing costs." Needless to say, this outreach effort by our Metropolis Religious Education Ministry, will engage and benefit not only those who teach in our schools, but our children and their parents, as well.

GREEK FOR ADULTS?

Remember the "good old days?" Back in the 50's, 60's, 70's and even the 80's, when we all went to Greek School? When we all "had" to learn Greek to be able to communicate with our yiayias (grandmothers) and papous (grandfathers), or so that we could be understood on those trips back to the patrida (i.e. to Greece)? Reluctantly, perhaps, but we all went. And we got a lot out of it. We attained, or strengthened, our cultural identity. We got to understand the structure of language better, and especially the English language, 48% of whose words, generally, and even a higher percentage of whose technical words, specifically, are Greek in origin. It made learning foreign languages easier. Furthermore, we could understand what our parents were saying when they were speaking Greek so that we couldn't understand them.

Times have changed. While cultural identity is still high on the list, our kids simply don't want to come to Greek School, and the parents are no longer making a big deal about it. After all, they reason, our kids have so much else going on in their lives: homework, and soccer, and Little League, and studying for PSATs, much less the fact that they already come to church several times a week: Tuesdays for Greek dancing, Wednesdays and Thursdays for basketball, Sunday for church and for Sunday School. In some other neighboring communities, where Greek education was on the decline a few years ago, there are spurts of interest and growth—on the Peninsula, for example, there are a lot of young families, who take their 3, 4 and 5 year olds, so

that they can learn poiimata (poems) and tragoudakia (songs), and on the East Bay, just the sheer size of the community there provides opportunities. In the City, however, the situation is different unless, of course, we consider the creation of a school, charter, parochial, or otherwise, where language and cultural history and appreciation could be incorporated into, or tacked on to, the curriculum.

So, what is happening? Adults, both those of Greek background and converts, have been expressing an interest in the church's providing classes in Greek language. And that's despite well-developed programs at the university level, as San Francisco State, City College, and elsewhere. Obviously, the reason for the interest in the Greek language by adults has nothing to do with writing letters to *yiayia* and *papou*. While the reasons are varied, more and more, we are hearing things like: "we want to get a better understanding of the theology of the Orthodox Church," or "we want to be able to read the Bible in its original language," or "Greek helps us better understand history and our Western Civilization." Gladly, therefore, we are in the process of speaking with teachers with a view to establishing, or re-establishing Greek language education at the Cathedral. Greek for adults? Why not! We will keep you posted.



FROM THE METROPOLIS YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES OFFICE

Embrace Forgiveness, By Pete Sotiras, Director

This month the Super Bowl will take place. The two best teams in the NFL will get together to play for their most prestigious title. By the time this article is published, we will all know who the two top teams in the league are. After a grueling season, these two teams will have emerged at the top. All the hard work, all the hours spent in the gym, and watching film, will have paid off. It's all about winning that championship, and having that ring on the finger.

We as Orthodox Christians also have a championship we should look forward to. We have a Victory Parade that must be in our minds. It's easy to go through life and just forget about the big picture. It's easy to just play PS3 or the Wii, or watch Laguna Beach and forget that we have an important mission. It's easy to get so focused on school and homework that we forget the bigger picture: that is, the Victory Celebration with Christ and the Saints. God has prepared a wonderful place for those that love him, a place where there is no pain, sorrow or suffering. Many times, the world we live in can be a place where there is much pain, sorrow and suffering. The very school we go to can be a challenge. I don't mean the subjects; I mean the crowd. One of the biggest issues you probably have faced at some point or another is the issue of gossip and rumors. These two issues are huge in schools. As you know, they can be the most damaging as well. Why would anyone engage in such behavior? More importantly, why would we forgive such people?

As Orthodox, forgiveness is huge and it is a major theme this February. On Sunday February 4th, the Gospel is about the Prodigal Son and on Sunday, February 18th, it's about the Sunday of Forgiveness. Basically, the Church is telling us that the road to Victory, the road to the Championship, must begin with forgiveness. Great Lent begins the evening of February 18th. Great Lent is the period where we pray a little more, fast a little more, help those in need a little more and go to Church a little more. It's a period which wakes us up and reminds us of the bigger picture, the Championship that we can forget during our daily life: the Kingdom of God, which we all are citizens of.

Forgiveness is huge because it keeps us from having to carry the heavy weight of bitterness. It reminds us that we are not perfect ourselves, and that if we want God to forgive us for our mistakes, we must do the same. I'm not saying this is easy at all. What I am saying is that you should try it sometime, and experience it for yourself. People gossip and spread rumors because they are insecure about themselves. You, o child of God, are smarter than that. You don't need to put others down to feel better. No sir. You only need to remember that you are a citizen of God. You are loved by our Lord like no one else and you have incredible potential. Through forgiving those who hurt us, we ourselves are freed from the heavy weight of bitterness and in the process, we are forgiven by God for our mistakes. Let us begin this Lent with a desire to grow closer to God, to desire the Victory Celebration with Christ and the Saints, by emulating their love, compassion and forgiveness. [Youth and their families can contact Pete at: sfyouth@sanfran.goarch.org]

ANDREAS & NIKI COUNDOURIS SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

As announced in our January *Herald*, the **Andreas and Niki Coundouris Scholarship Fund** has been created at the Cathedral. This fund, established by **John Coundouris**, a member of the Parish Council, in memory of his parents, with an initial gift of \$25,000.00, aims to provide support for the education of young people of the Annunciation Cathedral, at the college/university/technical/vocational school level.

The Coundouris scholarship is the fifth active scholarship maintained by the Cathedral for the benefit of our youth. The active scholarship funds, which include the John N. Pappas Scholarship, the Christos Tsikitas Scholarship, the Dr. Anthony P. Bagatelos Medical Scholarship, and the Judge S. Lee Vavuris Legal Scholarship, presently award between \$500 and \$1,000 each, to support the education of our young people. (Two additional scholarship funds, while established, are not yet fully funded and, therefore, do not generate enough income which can be awarded as scholarships, at this time.) In addition to the above scholarships, the Annunciation Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos, the philanthropic organization for the women of the Cathedral, maintains two scholarship funds, namely the Cathedral Ladies Philoptochos Scholarship Fund and the Argyres Scholarship Fund, and awards scholarships from these funds, also in amounts between \$500 and \$1,000. Scholarship applications may be requested by calling the Cathedral at 415 864-8000. The scholarships are awarded at the annual Father's Day Brunch, which the parish sponsors each year.

HAPS LUNCHEON AT THE CATHEDRAL FEBRUARY 11

Letters Day will be celebrated on Sunday, February 11, with an Artoklasia (Breaking of the Bread service) to honor scholars. The service will take place at the Cathedral, following the Divine Liturgy. It will be celebrated by **Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco**. HAPS (Hellenic American Professional Society of California), which is sponsoring the event, will hold a celebration luncheon in the Cathedral's Korinthias Hall, at 1 p.m., and extends a cordial invitation to members of the community to join HAPS as it presents this year's Axion Award to **Loula Anaston** and to **Leonidas Petrakis**, in recognition of their achievements, and as it awards four scholarships to Bay Area students. The donation for the luncheon is \$42.50 per person. For reservations, or for information, please call **Virginia Lagiss** at 650 851-0270 or **George Mattis**, HAPS President, at 415 566-4308.

TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY VESPERS SERVICES

Each year, Orthodox of all jurisdictions meet and celebrate the event which, over 1200 years ago, restored the veneration of icons in Orthodox religious services. Known as "the Sunday of Orthodoxy," this first Sunday in the Great Lent provides Orthodox with the opportunity to express the oneness of our Faith, despite our jurisdictional reality. This year, the Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers will take place on **Sunday, February 25** at the Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Redeemer, 380 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos Hills, beginning at 5 p.m. A reception will follow in the church hall. **His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco** will be the homilist. **His Grace Bishop Benjamin of Berkeley** (OCA bishop) will also be present. For more information, please call the church at 650 941-1570.

FEDERAL CHANGES ON CHARITABLE GIVING

On August 17, 2006, the president signed the Pension Protection Act of 2006. Much of the legislation focused on charitable contributions, in addition to retirement plans. The new rules require that, in the case of a charitable contribution of money, regardless of the amount, the donor must maintain a cancelled check, bank record, or receipt. Donors may also contribute IRA distributions, up to \$100,000 of which may be excluded if paid directly by the IRA custodian to the qualifying charity, as the Cathedral, and if the donor is 70 ½ or older on or after the date of the contribution. As in all cases involving contributions to the Cathedral, donors are asked to consult their attorneys and/or financial advisors.

The Orthodox Church has always placed great emphasis on fasting. We fast on Wednesdays because on this day the decision was made to arrest Jesus. We fast on Fridays because it is the day on which Jesus was crucified. Fasting helps us remember that these are special days in the history of salvation.

Rev. Fr. Anthony Coniaris
Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home

Sacraments & Services

F U N E R A L S

James Vouchilas, who fell asleep in the Lord on December 28, was buried January 4. He is survived by his wife, Georgia, and their four children, Anastasia, Alexandra, Leo, and Gus, and grandson, James.

Violet Eveline Hodges, who fell asleep in the Lord on January 22, was buried January 26. She is survived by several godchildren, nieces and nephews.

Aionia I mnimi! May their Memory be eternal!



O radiant light of holy glory, the immortal Father, heavenly and holy, blessed Jesus Christ. And now that we have come to the setting of the sun with all the light of eventide, we praise You the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, One God. It is worthy at all times to praise You, with voices of holy song, O Son of God and giver of life, the world does glorify You.

Vespers Hymn: O radiant Light, Phos Ilaron

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Saturday, February 3

OYAA Basketball Games:

12 noon Boys C and Holy Trinity

1:00 p.m. Boys B and Holy Trinity

2:00 p.m. Boys A and St. Nicholas SF

Saturday, February 3

Messinian Makaronada, Ascension

Monday, February 5, 6

Metropolis Clergy Laity

Tuesday, February 6

Philoptochos, 1 p.m.

Saturday, February 10

First Saturday of Souls, Cemetery Chapel
"Pontic Glendi"

Sunday, February 11

HAPS Arokiasia/Luncheon

Friday, February 16

"FDF Weekend"

Saturday, February 17

Community Link, 10 a.m. to noon

Second Saturday of Souls, Cemetery Chapel

Monday, February 19

Great Lent Begins

Wednesday, February 21

Presanctified Liturgy, 10 a.m., Bible Study at 11
Parish Council, 7 p.m.

Friday, February 23

First Salutations, 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 25

Sunday of Orthodoxy

Wednesday, February 28

Presanctified Liturgy, 10 a.m., Bible Study at 11

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, March 25

The Annunciation

Saturday, March 31

"Palm Tying Brunch"

Friday, April 06

"TGI Pascha"

Sunday, April 8

Pascha

Saturday, April 14

Philoptochos Appreciation Dinner

Sunday, April 22

Parish Oratorical Festival/Godparents Sunday/
Parish Assembly

RECURRING EVENTS

Tuesdays

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Greek Dance Practice (Kytherian Room)

7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Girls C Basketball Practice

Wednesdays

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Greek School (Conference Room)

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Boys High School Basketball Practice

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Open Gym

Thursdays

6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Boys C Team Basketball Practice

7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Boys B Team Basketball Practice

7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Boys A Team Basketball Practice

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Learning Community (Bible Study)

Sundays

12 noon to 3:00 p.m.

Greek Dance Practice



The 2nd Annual PONTIC GLENDI

Saturday February 10th, 2007

At the Annunciation Cathedral Greek Orthodox Church
245 Valencia Street
San Francisco, CA 94103



6:30pm Cocktails
7:30pm Dinner



Admissions: \$40 Adults
\$25 Children 12 & under
After Dinner Admissions: \$20 at the Door

For Reservations CONTACT:

Lea Lyberopoulos: (650)619-0504

Karthia808@yahoo.com

Irene Kyriacou: (650)591-0690

Live Musicians from Greece!

****Dinner Reservations booked ONLY in ADVANCE****



ΚΟΙΝΟΤΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ ΚΑΙ ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΕΙΣ ΑΚΟΜΑ ΜΙΑ ΦΟΡΑ, ΠΟΝΤΙΑΚΟ ΓΛΕΝΤΙ!

Τα παιδιά των χορευτικών συγκροτημάτων του Καθεδρικού Ναού, που πέρνυσι οργάνωσαν ένα πολύ πιτυχημένο ποντιακό γλέντι, εφέτος σας προσκαλούν στην δεύτερη αυτή εκδήλωση ποντιακού χορού. Το γλέντι, που εφέτος περιλαμβάνει και δείπνο, θα λάβει χώραν στην μεγάλη αίθουσα δεξιώσεων του Καθεδρικού Ναού το Σάββατο, 10 Φεβρουαρίου, με δεξίωση στις 6:30 μ.μ. και δείπνο στις 7:30 μ.μ. Η προσφορά είναι 40 δολλ. για μεγάλους, 25 δολλ. για παιδιά 12 και κάτω. Για να κλείσετε θέσεις παρακαλείσθε όπως τηλεφωνήσετε στην Ειρήνη Κυριάκου, στο 650 591-0690 ή στη Λία Λυμπεροπούλου, στο 650 619-0504.

ΤΑ ΠΑΙΔΙΑ ΜΑΣ ΣΤΟ ΧΟΡΕΥΤΙΚΟ ΦΕΣ- ΤΙΒΑΛ

Εφέτος στο χορευτικό φεστιβάλ που οργανώνει η Μητρόπολή μας, στο Οντάριο της Καλιφόρνιας 15-18 Φεβρουαρίου, τον Καθεδρικό Ναό θα εκπροσωπήσουν δύο χορευτικά συγκροτήματα, τα Αγγελάκια (παιδιά 10-12 χρόνων) και τα Φιλαδελφάκια (παιδιά 13-16 χρόνων). Τα παιδιά θα συνοδεύσουν οι γονείς και οι δάσκαλοί τους. Τους ευχόμαστε τα βέλτιστα.

Breakfast is one of the most neglected meals, yet it is important because it takes place at the beginning of the day. During those hours the family often seems to be simply running a relay race, to get everyone ready in time for work or school. Nonetheless, apart from morning prayer, which goes without saying, it would benefit children to begin the day with even five minutes' experience of their mother's and father's concern, love, and interest in what everyone is going to do that day. When a child leaves for school the mother can bless him, or pray: "God bless" or "the Mother of God be with you." All this does not only further psychological security; it is a safeguard against any negative influences the child may meet, and it is a link between the two worlds of home and school.

Sister Magdalen
Children in the Orthodox Church Today



ΥΠΟΤΡΟΦΙΕΣ-ΔΩΡΕΕΣ

Κάθε χρόνο, ο Καθεδρικός Ναός προσφέρει υποτροφίες σε παιδιά που σπουδάζουν ή που θα σπουδάσουν σε πανεπιστήμια ή κολλέγια. Μαζί με τις δύο υποτροφίες που προσφέρει η Φιλοπρωσία, η Κοινότητα προσφέρει επτά υποτροφίες, με χρηματικά ποσά 500-1.000 δολλάρια το κάθε παιδί. Πρόσφατα, προστέθηκε ακόμα μία υποτροφία, την οποία ίδρυσε ο Γιάννης Κουντούρης εις μνήμη των γονέων του, προσφέροντας το αρχικό ποσό των 25.000 δολλάρια. Όπως με όλες τις υποτροφίες που παρέχει ο Καθεδρικός Ναός, το κεφάλαιο παραμένει ακέραιο, μόνον το εισόδημα δίδεται ως υποτροφία. Μία άλλη δωρεά που έλαβε πρόσφατα ο Καθεδρικός Ναός είναι ένα ποσοστό από την περιουσία του Θωμά Καρή, ο οποίος απεβίωσε προ έτους, συγκεκριμένα ένα χρηματικό ποσό που ανέρχεται στα 19.507 δολλάρια, για την ίδρυση ταμείου που θα βοηθά άπορους-αστέγους, όσους έχουν ανάγκη από βοήθεια. Το Κοινοτικό Συμβούλιο, επίσης, όρισε όπως το ποσό αυτό παραμείνει ως κεφάλαιο, ο δε τόκος να απονέμεται για τον ως άνω σκοπό. Προβλέπεται πως το ταμείο αυτό, μαζί με άλλες δωρεές, σε λίγο χρονικό διάστημα, δύναται να υπερβεί τα 100.000, ώστε η βοήθεια που παραχωρεί, μαζί με την φιλανθρωπική δράση της Φιλοπρωσίας του Καθεδρικού Ναού, να είναι πιο σημαντική.

ΕΙΚΟΝΕΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΝ ΣΙΝΑ΄

Όπως γνωρίζουν πολλοί, για πρώτη φορά σε 1500 και παραπάνω χρόνια, εικόνες από το ιστορικό μοναστήρι της Αγίας Αικατερίνης του Σινά, έχουν μεταφερθεί στην Καλιφόρνια και βρίσκονται σε έκθεση στο Μουσείο Γκέττυ του Λος Άντζελες. Η έκθεση τελειώνει στις 4 Μαρτίου. Θα θέλαμε να οργανώσουμε όμιλο από την Κοινότητα του Καθεδρικού Ναού, ώστε να επισκεφθούμε το Μουσείο και να δούμε τις εικόνες αυτές. Προβλέπεται το ταξίδι αυτό να γίνει προς το τέλος του Φεβρουαρίου. Απλώς θα θέλαμε να μάθουμε εάν και κατά πόσον υπάρχει ενδιαφέρον. Προβλέπεται να μεταβούμε αεροπορικώς, και να μείνουμε μία νύκτα σε ξενοδοχείο. Το κόστος προβλέπεται να είναι 250 δολλάρια το άτομο. Το άλλο πρωί, αφού θα επισκεφθούμε το Γκέττυ και δούμε τις εικόνες, θα επισκεφθούμε επίσης τον Ναό της Αγίας Σοφίας και θα επιστρέψουμε το απόγευμα. Εάν ενδιαφέρεσθε, παρακαλείσθε να δηλώσετε την επιθυμία σας στον Πατέρα Στυλιανό μέχρι τις 10 Φεβρουαρίου, ώστε να μπορέσει ο Καθεδρικός Ναός να κλείσει θέσεις εγκαίρως.

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΓΙΑ ΕΝΗΛΙΚΟΥΣ;

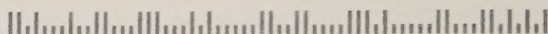
Ενθυμείσθε τις "καλές παλαιές ημέρες" τότε που όλα τα παιδιά μας πήγαιναν στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο; Όταν μαθαίναν ελληνικά ούτως ώστε να μπορέσουν να γράφουν στη γαλλία ή στον παπού, επίσης να μπορέσουν να

επικοινωνήσουν όταν τα πηγαίναμε στην Ελλάδα, για να τους γνωρίσουν; Καί καλό τους έκανε, εφ' όσον αρκετές λέξεις στην αγγλική γλώσσα προέρχονται από ελληνικές. Και καλό είναι ο άνθρωπος να ξεύρει παρά πάνω από μία γλώσσα. Οι καιροί άλλαξαν. Τα παιδιά μας δεν θέλουν πλέον να πηγαίνουν στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο, και οι γονείς δεν τους το επιβάλλουν. Έτσι, σιγά σιγά μειώνεται ο αριθμός των παιδιών που πηγαίνουν στο Ελληνικό Σχολείο. Θα πείτε ότι σε άλλες Κοινότητες της περιοχής μας, ο αριθμός φοιτητών αυξάνεται. Ναι. Ένας λόγος είναι ότι πολλές οικογένειες με παιδιά φεύγουν από την Πόλη. Προτιμούν τα περίχωρα. Ένας λόγος είναι τα σχολεία. Και έτσι η ελληνική παιδεία σιγά σιγά ξεφανίζεται. Σκεφτόμαστε, βέβαια, να αρχίσουμε κανονικό σχολείο, στο οποίο θα διδάσκεται και η ελληνική γλώσσα, και η ιστορία, και ο ελληνικός πολιτισμός. Αλλά εδώ μιλάμε όχι για το εγγύς μέλλον. Τί συμβαίνει; Αρχίζουν οι ενήλικοι, και παιδιά από Έλληνες γονείς και προσηλυτί, να ζητούν να γίνουν μαθητές της ελληνικής γλώσσας και στην Εκκλησία, παρά το γεγονός ότι έδω στον Άγιο Φραγκίσκο διδάσκονται ελληνικά σε τουλάχιστο δύο πανεπιστήμια. Όχι, θέλουν να μαθαίνουν στην Εκκλησία να μαθαίνουν ελληνικά. Έτσι, λοιπόν, προγραμματίζουμε να ανοίξουμε Ελληνικό Σχολείο για μεγάλους, γυρεύοντας και δασκάλους και φοιτητές. Περισσότερες λεπτομέρειες θα γράψουμε σε επόμενο μας δελτίο.

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